

W. J. FLORENCE DEAD.

Pneumonia Puts an End to the Popular Actor's Career.

The End Came Unexpectedly in a Philadelphia Hotel.

Wife Hastily Summoned by Cable from England.

Police Inspector Peter Conlin, full brother of William J. Florence, the actor, left for Philadelphia on the 8:10 train this morning, to take charge of his brother's body and bring it to New York this evening.

The Inspector had been in attendance upon the sick man ever since he was taken ill in the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, until yesterday, when the indications seemed so favorable to Florence that Mr. Conlin came to attend to pressing business.

He reached his home, 127 West 10th Street, and at 9:30 o'clock last night, and an hour later at 10:30, he received a telegram announcing the actor's death.

A cablegram has been received from Mrs. Florence, who is in England, and will sail for home to-morrow, asking that the funeral be held at her brother's residence.

The funeral will probably take place next Monday, and interment will be in Mr. Florence's own plot in Greenwood Cemetery.

Mr. Florence's death came suddenly, the change for the worse not becoming apparent until within his last hour. The end was peaceful, as peaceful as the watchman at his bedside did not know when he ceased breathing.

So little had the imminence of death been realized that not only Inspector Conlin, but another brother, Benjamin Conlin, of Brooklyn, and Mr. Florence's daughters, Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Shepherd, had gone home, leaving for the sick man's recovery.

The physicians in charge are reticent as to the immediate circumstances of Mr. Florence's death, though they say they had foreseen it two days before it occurred. His disease was pneumonia, and he had become very weak.

Mrs. Barney Williams and Mrs. Wyand, Florence's sisters-in-law, were at his bedside when he died.

Telegrams were sent at once to Inspector Conlin and the other relatives, and a cablegram was despatched to Mrs. Florence.

A telegram was also sent to Joseph Jefferson at Grand Rapids, Mich. He was Mr. Florence's professional partner and intimate friend.

Mr. Florence did not give up playing until after he had been ill from a bad cold for several days. He completed his work at the Arch Street Theatre last Saturday night, and after the performance gave a supper to Mr. and Mrs. Kendall. When he retired he was so ill that his valet summoned a physician.

Dr. Donnellan, the physician, was one of the actor's intimate friends. He diagnosed his views were endorsed by Drs. Pancoast and De Costa, whom he called in consultation.

The physicians took such a grave view of the case that Florence's relatives were summoned, and the last rites of the Catholic Church were administered to him Tuesday.

After that the sick man rallied, and until his last moments his relatives hoped for his recovery.

William J. Florence was acknowledged to be one of the foremost character actors on the American stage.

His family name was Conlin, and he was born in the city of Albany, July 28, 1831.

His talent for the stage was developed at a very early age, when he became a leading member of the Murdoch Dramatic Association of this city, and he was only eighteen years old when he made his first professional appearance at the "Old Bower," in the character of the outboard in the play of "Evadne."

After a tour in the South he returned to New York in 1850 and obtained an engagement with John Brougham's company at Niblo's Garden. Just previous to this he had some experience as a reporter on one of two New York papers.

From Niblo's Garden he went to the Old Bower, where he made several hits, and then, after a tour through New England, he opened there in 1851 at Brougham's Lyceum Theatre, Broadway and Broome street.

In 1852 Florence appeared at the Broadway Theatre as Lord Tinsel in "The Hunchback," and during the following year he married Miss Malina Fray, a sister of Mrs. Barney Williams.

She was at that time a dancer in Wallack's Theatre, and played together for the first time in June, 1853, in the National Theatre, in the character of an Irish boy and she was a Yankee girl. Later they went abroad, and after a highly successful tour in England returned to New York in 1857 and played to great success in several of the leading theatres of the city, including Wallack's, where they had a long and successful engagement.

During his tour in London he received many marks of approval, and Charles Dickens wrote him a letter complimenting him upon his rendition of the role of Capt. Cuttle.

The "Mighty Dollar" was probably the most successful play financially in which the Florences ever appeared. It made them wealthy. As Harlowe Stone and Mrs. Conlin, Gilroy and Mrs. Florence have appeared before the public very near to three thousand times.

Within the past few years Florence has been associated with Joseph Jefferson, and has appeared in "The Hunchback," "The Heir at Law," and several other plays with a veteran actor.

Florence was a well-built, good-looking man, who always dressed jauntily and whose sixty years sat lightly upon his shoulders. He had wavy brown hair, a broad, well-developed brow, bright, sympathetic and honest blue eyes and a full, clean-shaven face. His voice was rich and in tone and his smile always frank and genial. He was a member of the Players', Manhattan, Lotos and Lancers' Clubs, in this city, and of the Beateak, Garrick, Green Room, Fielding, and Savage Clubs, in London.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS. GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Nov. 20.—Joseph Jefferson received the news of Florence's death shortly after he had finished last evening's performance. He was profoundly affected, and announced that his engagement for to-night at Detroit would be postponed.

Among the Wheelmen. There will be a two-mile safety race at the Twenty-second Street track to-morrow night.

The Centaur Wheelmen will hold a special safety race on the same track at the same time.

The Englewood-Tenney course will be utilized very generally on Nov. 26.

The Riverside Wheelmen will hold a star race Nov. 21.

The New York Trotting Wheelmen will run at Washington Bridge Nov. 23.

A fifty-hour bicycle race is being arranged for January 2 to be held in the arena at Madison Square Garden.

The Polo and Bicycle Club will hold a "stag" the first week in December.

ALL HUSTLING IN NEW YORK.

The Country's Political Nerve Centre Near Madison Square.

Democrats Canvass for the Speakership, Republicans for the Convention.

New York City is just now the centre of national political activity. Here is being conducted the canvass for the speakership of the Lower House of Congress; the fight for the Republican National Convention is in progress, and the sudden appearance of four Republican United States Senators at the Fifth Avenue Hotel this morning suggests that still other matters of great importance are being considered here.

Three of the most prominent of the candidates for Speaker of the next House are in this city, actively canvassing for votes. They are Congressman Crisp, of Georgia, who has been at the Hoffman House for several days; Congressman Mills, of Texas, who is the guest of Thomas G. Shearman, of Brooklyn, and Congressman Springer, of Illinois, who, though not as strong as the other two in the matter of votes, pledged, hopes that he may be a compromise candidate and the chosen gavel-wielder.

Representative McMillin, of Tennessee, who did all the work which it was possible for him to do in the summer of 1890, and early autumn, most of which he spent in this city, has transferred his canvass to other sections.

The candidates are engaged particularly in canvassing the New York Democratic delegation, but as most of the Representatives from all over the country make a metropolitan call before proceeding to Washington they find this the best possible place to do their general button-holing.

Representative Mills is peculiarly the candidate of the Reform Club and the Cleveland men. He claims ten of the New York delegation and hopes for more, of those who are known to be his supporters are John H. Witt, Warner, of this city; Gen. Tracey, of Albany, and William J. Coombs, of Brooklyn. Hope is also expressed for the support of Ashbel P. Fitch.

Mr. Mills made a dead set for the Brooklyn delegation yesterday, but it is not recorded that he secured the pledges of other than Mr. Coombs, who, with Representative Wagner, were the only members of the delegation who met him.

A caucus of the Brooklyn men is expected to be held in a few days with the idea of settling the county to act as a unit, which it does in almost every political movement.

Congressman Covert, of the First District, including Suffolk, Queens and Richmond Counties, is said to favor McMillin, and Congressman-elect Chapin also thinks well of the tall Tennesseean.

Gov. Hill is supposed to be friendly to Judge Crisp, and for this reason it is said that the Georgian claims seventeen votes from the New York delegation.

One hundred and eighteen votes are necessary to a choice in the Democratic Congressional caucus, and the friends of Judge Crisp claim that he has pledges to the number of 37. Friends of Mr. Mills claim but 34.

The battle of the cities for the Republican National Convention will be transferred to Washington to-day. Acting Chairman Clarkson, of the National Committee, goes there this afternoon. Most of the members are on their way there, and others will start either to-day or to-morrow.

The West, as usual, is doing the greatest amount of "rustling." Minneapolis is easily in the lead in this respect, with the Committee-men from the new States of the great Northwest in her favor, besides an army of boomers.

Omaha is not far behind, while San Francisco has Committee-men De Young and a party of Californians on the way laden with golden promise of what the city of sand hills will do should the convention be held there.

Cincinnati has many friends, but Chicago maintains a silence which suggests that she is satisfied with the burden of a World's Fair.

New York wants the Convention, and wants it badly. Nor are her advocates going to make the mistake of being overconfident of success. They are going to make a determined effort to capture it, and for that purpose the Republican County Committee, the Republican Club, Republicans and business men outside of the organization have joined hands with the hotel men and others whose interests are most at stake, and they will march on Washington in a body.

New York State's member of the Committee and its secretary, J. Bost Fassett, will be one of the most earnest advocates of the city's claims. He says that the arguments in favor of locating the convention here are unanswerable.

New York has more and better hotels than other cities; more and better newspapers to report the proceedings; more and better places in which to hold a convention—with no local candidate to pack the convention hall.

Besides these, New York, he says, possesses the advantage of being the financial, moral, industrial, social, manufacturing and political centre of the country.

The entire Executive Committee of the Republican County Committee will go to Washington to urge New York's selection. Their efforts will be supplemented by those of another committee of fifty, headed by Dr. Chauncey M. Depew, and, altogether, the interests of the metropolis are expected to be well cared for.

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SOLID SILVER HUNTING WATCHES, GEN. N. Y. AMERICAN MOVEMENT, ELGIN OR WALTHAM, stem-winder, \$10.

LADIES' SOLID GOLD HUNTING WATCHES, beautifully chased and engraved, stem-winder, American movement, \$18.

LADIES' SOLID GOLD STEM-WINDING WATCHES, with Elgin or Waltham movement, stem-winder and set, with a 21-jewel guarantee, for \$18.

A SOLID GOLD STOPWATCH, WITH MIN. AND SEC. CHRONOGRAPH, heavy 14-carat case, very fine movement, an accurate timer, \$25.

A GENUINE E. HOWARD & CO. WATCH, with 14-carat solid gold case, for \$60.

WE GIVE A WRITTEN GUARANTEE WITH every watch for three years; if not so represented money will be refunded.

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Open EVENINGS until 9:30. SATURDAY, 10:30.

NOT A NEW RAILWAY MYSTERY.

"Crazy Rosie's" Death Was Due to John Barleycorn Alone.

[SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.] RAILWAY, N. Y., Nov. 20.—The mystery attending the supposed murder of "Crazy Rosie" Johnson at her home, 7 Montgomery street, East Rahway, was cleared up by Chief of Police Tooker this morning, and the cause of death were found to be natural.

"Crazy Rosie" was fifty years old, and a familiar character in Rahway. For three years she had kept house for William Ward, an indolent, shiftless woodcutter. They both drank to excess and had frequent quarrels.

Her dead body was found yesterday near the stove in the house, partly nude, with her clothing pulled up around her chest. Her body was covered with bruises, and a big contusion, as if made by a club, was on her forehead. The room was in great disorder.

Neither the woman nor Ward had been seen since Tuesday, but this had occasioned no comment, as both frequently went away.

Mrs. Julia Keefe, a neighbor, found the door open yesterday and walking in discovered the woman's body. Immediately a report gained currency that the woman had been murdered.

It was ascertained to-day that the cause of death was undoubtedly paralysis, caused by excessive indulgence in drink. She had spent Monday night in the police station.

The bruise on the woman's forehead was caused by her falling on the pavement Monday night, just before Policeman Healy, who saw her fall, arrested her. Ward turned up in his usual haunts to-day and no suspicion attaches to him.

County Physician Westervelt will view the body this afternoon.

MELBOURNE'S RAIN-MAKING. A Kansas Stock Company Alleged to Have Seriously Taken It Up.

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.] KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 20.—Frank Melbourne has completed his arrangements for his rain-making company in Kansas.

Last week a party of Goodland, Kan., men went quietly down into the Pan Handle of Texas and experimented. They produced a flood of rain and came back satisfied.

The company has a capital of \$100,000. Melbourne is to have charge of the operations.

Record-Breaking Cut of Lumber. [BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.] MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 20.—The lumber season is over, and the cut for the year reaches 447,713,252 feet of lumber, 307,221,000 shingles and 97,697,000 laths. This beats all records.

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SOL HEY MAN & CO.,

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Schoppe's best BALBRIGGAN, 48-ct. regular price \$1.50, \$1.40; L. R. Morley's pure MERINO, 48-ct. regular price \$1.50, \$1.40; Best quality SANITARY WOOL, 48-ct. regular price \$1.50, \$1.40.

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Best English DOBBLIN, 48-ct. worth \$1.50, \$1.40; DENT'S Best Quality, 48-ct. worth \$1.50, \$1.40; A few left of our English Imported Overcoats. Will close at a great bargain.

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Derby, both the round crown, with narrow brim and the low crown, wide brim, now so popular, at \$1.00 and \$2.00; they far surpass those elsewhere at \$2.00 and \$4.00.

Alpine Hats, \$1.00, \$2.40, \$2.50. Silk Hats, correct in every way, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.00.

No Royalty Price for a Name. Greatest Stock anywhere.

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50 MIFT CARPETS, all sizes, from \$3 up to \$100; 2000 yds. of 11th st. Harem.

Nearing the End.

One week more only of the American Institute Fair. On Saturday evening, Nov. 20, the exhibition will close. Meantime those who wish to see the Sixteenth Exhibition will find that 25 cents for a ticket and a visit any time during the day and evening. Is instruction and pleasure combined at small cost of time or money.

Fred Meyer Wanted at Home.

Cynthia Meyer, of Portchester, N. Y., reports that his fifteen-year-old son, Frederick Meyer has run away from home. He believes the boy is in New York and wants him back home.

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